



# DOMINICA



## INTRODUCTION

Dominica was the last of the Caribbean islands to be colonized by Europeans due chiefly to the fierce resistance of the native Caribs. France ceded possession to Great Britain in 1763, which colonized the island in 1805. Independence came in 1978.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

President Charles A. SAVARIN

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Roosevelt SKERRIT

### Government Type

parliamentary republic

### Capital

Roseau

### Legislature

unicameral House of Assembly (32 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 751 sq km

Land: 751 sq km

Water: negligible

### Climate

tropical; moderated by northeast trade winds; heavy rainfall

### Natural Resources

timber, hydropower, arable land

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

highly agrarian OECS island economy; ECCU-member state; large banana exporter; COVID-19- and Hurricane Maria-related public debt increases; improving government oversight of its very cheap citizenship-by-investment program

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$710 million (2020 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$9,900 (2020 est.)

**Industries** - soap, coconut oil, tourism, copra, furniture, cement blocks, shoes

**Agricultural products** - bananas, yams, grapefruit, taro, milk, coconuts, oranges, yautia, plantains, sugarcane

**Exports** \$28 million (2017 est.)

medical instruments, pharmaceuticals, low-voltage protection equipment, tropical fruits, bandages (2019)

**partners:** Saudi Arabia 47%, Qatar 5% (2019)

**Imports** \$206.6 million (2017 est.)

refined petroleum, natural gas, crude petroleum, recreational boats, cars (2019)

**partners:** US 57%, Nigeria 11%, China 6%, Italy 5% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

74,580 (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

0.07% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

African descent 84.5%, mixed 9%, Indigenous 3.8%, other 2.1%, unspecified 0.6% (2011 est.)

### Language

English (official), French patois

### Religion

Roman Catholic 52.7%, Protestant 29.7%, Jehovah's Witness 1.3%, Rastafarian 1.1%, other 4.3%, none 9.4%, unspecified 1.4% (2011 est.)

### Urbanization

urban population: 71.4% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 0.84% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

